IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original): A method for examining an electronic representation of an item for a watermark, the method comprising:

examining at least a first electronic representation of an item for a watermark in accordance with a first watermark definition;

receiving a signal indicating that a second watermark definition is to be used for examining electronic representations; and

examining at least a second electronic representation of an item for a watermark in accordance with the second watermark definition and not examining the item for a watermark in accordance with the first watermark definition.

Claim 2 (original): A method according to claim 1 and also comprising:

controlling access to at least the second electronic representation based, at least in part, on a result of the examining at least a second electronic representation step.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1 and wherein the first electronic representation and the second electronic representation are identical.

Claim 4 (original): A method according to claim 1 and wherein the signal comprises a representation of the second watermark definition.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1 and also comprising:

retrieving the second watermark definition from a storage device in response to the receiv<u>ed</u>[[ing]] signal.

Claim 6 (original):   A method according to claim 1 and also comprising computing the second watermark definition in response to the received signal.

Claim 7 (original):   A method according to claim 1 and wherein the first watermark definition and the second watermark definition each comprises an indication of a location, within each electronic representation to be examined, at which a watermark, if present, is to be found.

Claim 8 (original):   A method according to claim 1 and wherein the first watermark definition and the second watermark definition each comprises an indication of a watermarking method according to which each electronic representation to be examined is to be examined for a watermark.

Claim 9 (currently amended):   A method according to claim 1 and wherein the signal comprises authentication information for establishing that the signal originates from an authentic source, and

the receiving step also includes:

verifying the authentication information to determine whether the authentication information is correct and rejecting the receiv<u>ed</u>[[ing]] signal if the authentication information is determined to be incorrect, thereby causing the first watermark definition to continue to be used for examining if the authentication

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information is incorrect.

Claim 10 (currently amended):   A watermark examiner for examining an electronic

representation of an item for a watermark, the examiner comprising:

a watermark definition store operative to store a

watermark definition;

watermark examination apparatus operatively

associated with the watermark definition store and operative to examine an electronic

representation of an item for a watermark in accordance with the watermark definition

stored in the watermark definition store; and

a watermark definition signal receiver operative to

receive a signal indicating that a new watermark definition is to be used for examining

electronic representations and to store the new watermark definition in the watermark

definition store,

wherein, after the watermark definition signal

receiver stores the new watermark definition in the watermark definition store, the

watermark examination apparatus examines in accordance with the new watermark

definition and not in accordance with a watermark definition previously stored in the

watermark definition store.

Claim 11 (original):   A watermark examiner according to claim 10 and wherein the

watermark definition comprises an indication of a location, within each electronic

representation to be examined, at which a watermark, if present, is to be found.

Claim 12 (original): A watermark examiner according to claim 10 and wherein the watermark definition comprises an indication of a watermarking method according to which each electronic representation to be examined is to be examined for a watermark.

Claim 13 (original): A watermark examiner according to claim 10 and wherein the signal comprises a representation of the second watermark definition.

Claim 14 (original): A watermark examiner according to claim 10 and wherein the watermark examiner also comprises a watermark storage memory for storing at least one watermark definition, and

the watermark definition signal receiver is operative to retrieve the new watermark definition from the watermark storage memory in response to the received signal.

Claim 15 (original): A watermark examiner according to claim 10 and wherein the watermark definition signal receiver is also operative to compute the second watermark definition in response to the received signal.

Claim 16 (original): A watermark examiner according to claim 10 and wherein the signal comprises authentication information for establishing that the signal originates from an authentic source, and

the watermark definition signal receiver also includes:

signal verification apparatus operative to verify the authentication information to determine whether the authentication information is correct and to reject

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the received signal if the authentication information is determined to be incorrect, thereby causing the first watermark definition to continue to be used for examining if the authentication information is incorrect.

Claims 17 - 46 (Cancelled).